Zoological Park has an adverse impact on the efforts of the Union Government for Cellular and Molecular Biology, for conservation on species; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure that the scientific tests are not hampered?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) No Sir. Andhra Pradesh Forest Department is rendering full assistance to the Centre of Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad in their species conservation project.

Quasi-judicial status to State Pollution Control Boards

1295. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recommendation has been made by the Planning Commission to accord quasi-judicial status to State Pollution Control Boards;

(b) if so, what is Government's response in this regard;

(c) whether Government have a monitoring machinery to ensure that State Pollution Control Boards perform their duty regarding pollution control efficiently; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission has circulated the report on functioning of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to the concerned organisations for comments and observations.

(c) and (d) State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) constituted under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 are entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring and controlling environmental pollution. Successive enactment and framing of rules under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act and Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 have specified the powers and functions of the SPCBs in different areas of their intervention. The State Pollution Control Boards are working under the administrative control of respective State Governments. Besides, the Central Government, through the Central Pollution Control Board, also takes necessary steps from time to time for control of pollution including issuing directions to State Pollution Control Boards.